

# WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE UNITED DISTRICT

*(East Dean, Lydney, Newent & West Dean Rural Districts)*

## ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

A. T. HUNT

M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*for the year*

1965

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*Published by*  
THE WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE UNITED DISTRICT  
(MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH) COMMITTEE

*Printed by*  
Albert E. Smith (Printers) Ltd, Longsmith Street, Gloucester

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UNITED DISTRICT

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of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year  
1965

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE,  
COLEFORD, GLOS.

Tel. : Coleford 3364/5.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the Rural District Councils of the West Gloucestershire United District.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1965. This is, as usual, a composite Report giving the Reports of the Public Health Inspectors, Surveyors and Housing Officers. I have included as much as possible of the public health work done by the Councils and their Staffs, and have included the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The Vital Statistics are based upon the figures supplied by the Registrar General. The birth and death rates are worked out for each Rural District, but these tend to vary from year to year as the figures on which they are based are small ; it is not possible to work out infantile mortality and still birth rates as the figures are far too small.

The health of the people of the District has been good ; there have been no serious outbreaks of infectious disease. The pattern of causes of death is similar to that of the Country as a whole. The deaths from cancer of the bronchus and lung, however, rose from twenty-seven in 1964, to forty-two last year. Thirty-eight of these deaths were in men and twenty-two of these men lived in the East Dean Rural District. Deaths from cancer of other sites remain constant. The increase in deaths from cancer in the bronchus and lung is progressive and is inevitable as a generation in which heavy cigarette smoking was almost universal reaches the cancer age. Thirty of these deaths were in persons over sixty-five and the other twelve were under this age. Cigarette smoking produces in bronchi and lungs an atmosphere with more cancer producing substances and other irritants than a city smog. Children are told of the danger of this habit at School and shown films in emphasis, but far too many follow adult example and become addicted to nicotine. The banning of cigarette advertisements on television is not enough, there should be more positive steps to inform young people of the effect of this habit in causing lung cancer, bronchitis and coronary thrombosis.

I am grateful to the Chairmen and Members of the Councils for their co-operation and understanding. I should like to thank the Public Health Inspectors for their assistance during the year and the other Officers of the Councils for their co-operation. I have to thank also the Printers for their care, and my Clerk, Miss Eleanor M. H. Hughes, for her careful work in assisting me to compile this work, and for her accurate work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. T. HUNT.



## VITAL STATISTICS

### Birth and Death Rates

				<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>
England and Wales	...	...	...	18.1	11.5
Gloucestershire	...	...	...	19.8	10.1
Combined Forest Area	...	...	...	17.4 (18.6)	10.6 (10.7)
East Dean	...	...	...	18.8 (19.6)	12.1 (12.2)
Lydney R.D.	...	...	...	15.8 (18.0)	8.4 (9.4)
Newent R.D.	...	...	...	15.9 (17.5)	10.2 (9.9)
West Dean	...	...	...	17.6 (18.3)	10.9 (10.4)

The Birth Rate is the number of live births per 1,000 population ; the Death Rate is the number of deaths per 1,000 population. The figures in brackets are the "corrected" rates which are obtained by multiplying the crude rate by the appropriate comparability factor issued by the Registrar General.

There were no deaths associated with childbirth.

There were 21 deaths during the first year of life (12 male and 9 female), of these 11 were during the first week, 3 were from the end of the first week to the end of the fourth week and 7 were from the end of the fourth week to the end of the first year.

### Numbers of Births and Deaths

				<i>Estimated Population (mid 1965)</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Excess of Births over Deaths</i>
East Dean	...	...	...	20,950	395	253	142
Lydney R.D.	...	...	...	13,840	219	116	103
Newent R.D.	...	...	...	9,090	144	93	51
West Dean	...	...	...	17,690	311	192	119
Total Area	...	...	...	61,570	1,069	654	415

### Chief Causes of Death

						<i>Percentage of total deaths</i>
Coronary disease and angina	...	...	...	...	...	15.6
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	14.5
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	3.7
Vascular disease of the nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	15.6
Cancer and other malignant neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	21.6
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	5.7
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	6.0
Pneumoconiosis (6 deaths)	...	...	...	...	...	0.9
Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	4.9

Cancer Deaths

	East Dean	Lydney R.D.	Newent R.D.	West Dean	Total
MALE					
Stomach ... ..	4	3	—	—	7
Lung and Bronchus ...	22	4	6	6	38
Other ... ..	16	5	3	7	31
Leukaemia ... ..	1	—	1	—	2
FEMALE					
Stomach ... ..	2	2	1	2	7
Lung and Bronchus ...	1	2	1	—	4
Breast ... ..	9	1	3	1	14
Uterus ... ..	2	—	—	2	4
Other ... ..	7	10	5	9	31
Leukaemia ... ..	—	1	1	1	3
TOTALS ... ..	64	28	21	28	141

CAUSES OF DEATH	East Dean		Lydney		Newent		West Dean		Total Area		
	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Total
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	1	4
Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Other forms of infectious disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	3
Cancer and other malignant neoplasms	43	21	12	16	10	11	13	15	78	63	141
Diabetes	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	4	5
Vascular disease of the nervous system	15	13	10	8	5	9	7	14	37	44	81
Coronary disease and angina	24	10	11	6	9	4	23	15	67	35	102
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	1	4	—	2	2	3	3	11	14
Other heart disease	7	16	9	9	5	3	11	21	32	49	81
Other circulatory disease	3	4	2	3	3	4	4	1	12	12	24
Pneumonia	5	13	2	3	2	1	6	5	15	22	37
Bronchitis	13	3	6	—	4	—	8	5	31	8	39
Other diseases of the respiratory system	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	7	2	9
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	5
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	3	1	4
Hyperplasia of the prostate	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	5	—	5
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	1	3	3	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	13	1	2	—	6	8	7	22	28	50
Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	1	—	—	—	3	—	10	2	12
All other accidents	5	4	2	1	2	2	2	2	11	9	20
Suicide	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS	143	110	64	52	48	45	95	97	350	304	654



## **INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

### **Diphtheria**

For the seventeenth year in succession there was no case. The elimination of this disease is due almost entirely to the routine immunization of children. The number of children in this Area who have missed this protection at doctors' surgeries, child welfare clinics or at schools must be very small. There were, however, 26 confirmed cases of this infection in England and Wales last year (10 in Kent, 13 in London, 2 in Manchester and 1 in Wiltshire) and the value of maintaining a high level of protection cannot be too strongly emphasised.

### **Poliomyelitis**

For the sixth year in succession no case of this disease has arisen. A young woman of 21 in the West Dean Rural District, died of this disease which she had contracted elsewhere just before her sixth birthday, thus ending a short life of disability. The value of vaccination in turning the post-war rising tide of this disease is very great.

### **Measles**

This was epidemic at Soudley in January and February, Littledean from March to June, Parkend and Pillowell in May, Cinderford in May and June, Longhope, Drybrook and Ruardean in June and July, Bream in July; it was very scattered throughout West Dean in August. It was epidemic at Newent in July and August and again in November and December. It was also epidemic in December, at Blakeney, Mitcheldean, Ruardean Woodside, The Pludds, Lydbrook and Tidenham.

### **Scarlet Fever**

Of the forty-nine cases notified, seven were at Lydney and seven at Bream during the month of July, otherwise the cases were very sporadic and arose throughout the year. The School Returns showed there were also a few cases at Tidenham in January.

### **Whooping Cough**

Only two cases were notified. There were probably a few other cases at Longhope. The great reduction in the incidence of this disease due to immunization during infancy is a great achievement.

### **Dysentery**

As a continuation of the small epidemic at Newent at the end of 1964, five more confirmed cases were notified and another two were found. Six cases were found at Dymock of which one was notified. Two cases arose in Upleadon in May. All were kept under observation until clear of infection. Two children were found by a general practitioner to have this disease at Ruspidge and he had them removed to hospital; these were isolated cases. Two cases were notified amongst staff at the Army Apprentices' School, Beachley. It was then found that their children had first had this infection, there having been a number of cases of diarrhoea at the Beachley Infants School. Altogether eleven persons were found to have had the infection.



**Food Poisoning**

There was only one notification and that in a young man near Coleford. He took sandwiches for lunch and the illness was probably due to bacterial growth in these, but this was not confirmed.

There was an isolated case of Salmonella typhimurium infection in a boy, aged 2, at Bream. This arose while he was on holiday and it was not possible to trace the source. The infection lasted for six weeks.

**Infectious Disease—table of corrected notifications**

Rural Districts	East Dean	Lydney	Newent	West Dean	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	12	13	3	21	49
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	2	—	2
Measles ... ..	734	37	204	155	1130
Dysentery ... ..	2	3	8	—	13
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	2	2	—	4
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	—	2	—	—	2

**Infective hepatitis (Virus jaundice)**

A number of cases occurred in adults and children in Coleford throughout the first threequarters of the year. There were also cases amongst children at Joys Green School in September, and Broadwell School in November. This is spread mainly by intestinal contamination and can infect water, milk or food. The control of this disease is handicapped by the fact that it is not notifiable and by the absence of a test for infectivity. Certainly no one suffering from it should be permitted to handle milk or food. The incubation period is 10 - 40 days and some infected persons do not actually develop jaundice. Infrequently a case is fatal.

**Tuberculosis**

There was a crop of twelve cases in the Drybrook Parish during the year and these formed two-thirds of the cases that arose in the East Dean Rural District. Annual tests for tuberculosis infection (Heaf tests) are done by me on School children attending Schools in the area from Lydbrook to Littledean. Five of these cases were in School children and the infection was found in two of these by this testing. It was also detected to be present in a family in which three of the cases later arose.

Three cases were in married persons in their early thirties, one was in a person in his twenties, another in her 'teens, one was an infant and one was a retired miner with silicosis. They arose in seven families and five arose in contacts of other cases notified during the year. All

were admitted to hospital and all except four children had been discharged at the end of the year. The outlook should be good (except in the old miner with silicosis), but they will require long supervision. Not all of these cases arose from one source, but apart from the spread within families, several must have been associated.

The number of notifications was thus 29, compared with 14 in 1964, and the number of deaths 5, compared with 4 in 1964. The progressive decrease in the incidence of this disease must be irregular ; the number of persons infected continues to decrease, but now and again as persons with old infections break down, crops of cases are liable to arise. The effectiveness of drug treatment in reducing infection is of very great value in prevention.

The Mass Radiography Unit held public sessions at Cinderford, Coleford and Lydney at regular two weekly intervals throughout the year.

#### Notifications during the Year :—

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
East Dean ... ..	13	5	—	—	18
Lydney ... ..	1	—	—	1	2
Newent ... ..	3	—	1	—	4
West Dean ... ..	4	1	—	—	5
TOTALS ... ..	21	6	1	1	29

#### Cases on Registers at the end of the Year :—

	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
East Dean ... ..	87	52	5	12	156
Lydney ... ..	34	12	1	4	51
Newent ... ..	14	2	1	2	19
West Dean ... ..	79	26	11	8	124
TOTALS ... ..	214	92	18	26	350

#### Other Childhood Infections

The School Returns gave the following information on childhood infections which are not notifiable :

*Mumps* : There were epidemics at Awre in January, Broadwell throughout the first quarter, Littledean in April, Dymock and Pauntley April to June, and Tidenham in November.



*Rubella (German Measles)* : There were a few cases at Lowbands in March, Corse in April, Lydney in July, and at Ruardean Hill in the last quarter.

*Conjunctivitis* : There were a number of cases at Huntley and Littledean in February and March.

*Chickenpox* : Epidemics occurred at Coleford in January, Yorkley in January, February and March, Dymock in March, Tibberton in May and June, and Corse and Staunton in October.

## GENERAL ITEMS

### Mains Water Supplies

The North West Gloucestershire Water Board took over the undertakings of the Councils on the 1st April.

In the case of the three Forest Authorities this was the end of a long struggle to obtain adequate supplies to serve the Districts more completely, for extra domestic facilities and for industry. The supplies of the East Dean and Lydney Rural Districts had become acutely critical. To avoid restrictions East Dean had become dependent upon a supply through overground plastic pipes from the Gloucester Corporation mains at Westbury as well as one from the West Dean supply, and the Tufts level on which Lydney had become dependent, had shown gross pollution.

No large source was available that could augment these supplies.

During the first quarter of the year the Inspectors took samples of most of the sources for chemical analyses, but in no District were these complete and the results were essentially similar to those tabulated in the 1964 Report. Copies of reports on detailed analyses of all the main sources done by the Board's Chemist were received. I did not consider it necessary to reprint these in this Report.

Sampling of the raw and treated waters for bacteriological examination continued to be done by the Inspectors of the three Forest Councils throughout the year and the Board's Engineer was informed of the results.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health in his Report "On the State of the Public Health for 1964" writing of the taking over of small water undertakings by larger water authorities states that, although the responsibility for the wholesomeness of the supply rests on the water authority, "A medical officer of health has the duty to satisfy himself that the necessary measures for the protection of the water supplies in his district are being carried out. This emphasises the need which has often been stressed for close co-operation and exchange of information between all those concerned with the safety of water supplies." This co-operation is clearly going to be more difficult with Officers of a distant Board than it was with the Council's Engineers, or it would have been with the Officers of a Forest Water Board.

## **Dental Caries**

The Minister of Health strongly advised Local Health Authorities to add one part per million of fluorine as soluble fluoride to the mains water supplies, to reduce dental caries in children. Fluorine is an essential nutrient for the proper development of teeth and the amount absorbed from drinking water with this concentration is optimum. Understandably, there can be objections to the administration of a nutrient in this way when the majority of persons who would receive it do not benefit from it, but no other method of administration is satisfactory, and I hope that in time adults, who although they cannot themselves benefit from this substance and may have been long settled with dentures, will agree to its administration in this way on the certain assurance of its safety for the sake of the country's children.

The National Pure Water Association has raised forceful opposition and has played a great deal on the lack of education in elementary chemistry of older generations. I consider this Association would be better employed striving for the water which has to be taken from rivers for domestic use, to be taken, as far as possible, from above the sewage outfalls of the large towns. Such river water is sterilized by chlorination but is still subject to taints from trade effluents, the effects of the consumption of which are not fully known.

Meanwhile the children of other countries will benefit from fluoridation of the drinking water, thus Eire is fast fluoridating the supplies of her towns.

Bacterial fermentation around the teeth from sticky carbohydrate foods and especially sweets, is just as important in causing dental caries as the lack of adequate fluoride, and no teeth can be expected to stand up to the persistent sucking of acidulous iced lollies.

In this connection the steady educational work done by the County Dental Department in Schools and Clinics is to be admired. The staffs of many Schools have been of great assistance in this work. The restriction of sweets to meal times to be followed by apples, carrots or brushing is recommended. Sweets are not necessary for growth and carbohydrate for energy is better obtained from ordinary food.

## **Common Lodging Houses**

There are none in any of the Districts.

## **Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963**

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in any of the Districts.

## **Housing Conditions**

The investigations of complaints of housing conditions continued, as in previous years, to form a substantial part of my work. Usually the requests for inspection come from applicants for Council houses but these may come in other ways and the Committees which let houses may call for reports. Often family doctors write to me and I rely on the health visitors to let me know where children are living in poor



conditions. In all cases reports are written which are sent to the Housing Officers in the cases of the East Dean and West Dean Rural District Councils and to the Clerks in the cases of Lydney and Newent Rural District Councils, so that these are available for the Committees that let houses. All of the worst cases must have been reported on. There are various other housing conditions which are brought to me for investigation.

### Berkeley Nuclear Power Station

The three Forest District Councils have representatives on the Liaison Committee of this Station. This Committee meets twice a year and the operation of the Station and Nuclear Laboratories is explained. The operation of the Oldbury Station under construction will also be included. The three District Councils also receive copies of the quarterly reports on the Environmental Monitoring, which is done over a large area around the Berkeley Station for the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

These are best studied in perspective with those of previous years. They give :—

1. The gamma radiation dose rates (microrentgens per hour). These are now stationary and show slightly higher figures at the half mile radius from the Station. This radiation is from the heat-exchange pipes and there should not be a similar increase around the Oldbury Station because the pipes will be enclosed in concrete.

Distance from Station	July, 1960 to June, 1961	July, 1961 to June, 1962	July, 1962 to June, 1963	July, 1963 to June, 1964	July, 1964 to June, 1965
Approx. ½ mile	9.1	10.1	13.1	12.8	13.5
1 - 5 miles	9.5	10.4	12.0	11.5	11.4
5 - 10 miles	9.4	10.3	11.7	11.2	11.3
More than 10 miles	9.1	10.1	11.4	11.0	11.2

2. Strontium 90 content of milk given in picocuries per gramme of calcium. The rise shown in the table was due entirely to the fall-out from the nuclear weapon tests of 1961 and 1962, and is not due to the operation of the Station. Fortunately in 1965, there was a decrease.

Distance from Station	July, 1960 to June, 1961	July, 1961 to June, 1962	July, 1962 to June, 1963	July, 1963 to June, 1964	July, 1964 to June, 1965
Less than 2 miles	4.9	4.9	13.7	31.2	19.8
2 - 5 miles	5.5	5.5	13.8	36.1	22.7
More than 5 miles	4.1	5.0	14.0	29.6	20.4

3. Gamma radiation level of River silt. This showed a fall to 7.25 microroentgens per hour from 7.5 in the previous year and 8.0 in 1963.

4. Beta activity in fish from the River given in picocuries per gramme. These do not show any significant change.

5. The discharges of liquid radioactive waste are given : 305.9 curies of gross alpha and beta activity as tritium were discharged to the River to the 1,500 curies permitted in a year and 4.7 curies from other radionucleides to the 75 curies permitted.

No radioactivity from the Nuclear Power Station would appear to have reached the Forest Area during the year.

The estimations of Strontium 90 excreted in milk began to show a decrease. Actually the amount deposited from the atmosphere began to decrease in late 1963, but this decrease was not reflected in milk until last year because the amount in herbage had still accumulated during 1964, and, of course, cows had some dried food which had been stored in the previous years when the fall-out rate was higher. There will likewise be a further delay before the amount of Strontium 90 in the bones of infants will show a decrease but in 1966 this should take place. In 1964, the average amount in the bones of children, aged 6 to 23 months, in the United Kingdom reached a level of 8.6 picocuries per gramme of calcium.

Whether this nucleide will be the cause of any case of leukaemia or of bone tumour arising over the next few decades in the Area, we shall not know. Nor shall we know whether any case of cancer of the thyroid gland that might arise would be due to the effect of the shorter lived Iodine 131, which was liberated from these tests, nor whether the continuing whole body radiation of Caesium 137 from the same sources will have any effect.

The radionucleide carbon 14 produced will last for many centuries.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47**

### **National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951**

Two elderly persons were compulsorily removed to hospital under the Amendment Act, that is, each was removed on a Justice of the Peace's Order given on the certificate of the family doctor and of myself, to the effect that, they were living in insanitary conditions, they were unable to look after themselves, they were not receiving proper care and attention from other persons and they needed to be moved urgently in their own interest.

On the 19th January, I was called in by a general practitioner in Newent to remove a man, aged 75, in congestive heart failure, to hospital from his very poor cottage. I had not seen this man previously but it was clear that he needed constant nursing care and could not survive if left. He physically resisted removal but settled down in hospital and improved. Unfortunately, while looking forward to leaving hospital to live with a niece, he died suddenly.

On the 26th February, a lady, aged about 90, living in Cinderford was removed on a Justice's Order to hospital. She was a deaf mute who had lived alone in two rooms for many years. I had kept her under



observation for eighteen years. Her conditions were insanitary but I had considered that she was able to look after herself and I do not doubt that she was happier living alone than she would have been in an institution, and she clearly indicated that she did not wish to leave her home. On the date mentioned she was found to be unable to feed herself and I obtained the Order and had to assist in physically removing her. She appeared to settle down but contracted broncho-pneumonia and died on the 9th March.

I kept two other old persons under observation during the year.

### **Corned Beef**

It will be remembered that the 1964 Aberdeen typhoid epidemic was presumed to have been caused by corned beef which had been infected by the tins in which it had been sterilized having been cooled in the heavily polluted River Plate.

A tin of another manufacture, Argentina Est. 1819, examined in Edinburgh was found to be contaminated with *Salmonella typhimurium* and because of this, tins from this source were withdrawn from sale. Throughout the year the Ministry of Health and the wholesalers discussed the disposal of these tins. A large batch, 280 six pound tins (less one that was stolen) held by L. Hawkins Ltd., of Staunton Court, was re-processed and released for sale.

### **Estimates of Population**

The Registrar General issues mid-year estimates of the populations of the Rural Districts. I have given estimates of the populations of the different Parishes. These are based upon the last Census figures amended according to the variations of the numbers of names on the electoral lists since 1961, and the variation in the number of dwellings. As far as possible these estimates are given in round numbers as they cannot be exact.

In the cases of the East Dean, Newent and West Dean Rural Districts, the Registrar General also issued "weighted means of the populations of the areas before and after the boundary changes operative at the 1st April, 1965." These were used for the birth and death rates and were : East Dean 20,980, Newent 9,070, and West Dean 17,700 respectively.

### **Brucellosis**

The organism *Brucella abortus* affects cows causing abortion, and is passed to human beings, causing undulant fever. An investigation was carried out by the County Health Department. The milk of every herd producing milk for sale as untreated milk was sampled repeatedly, as far as possible, monthly.

When the milk from the herd gave a positive "ring" test for brucella infection, the test was repeated on the milk of every individual cow (in a large herd on groups of cows first). I received copies of results

of 596 "ring" tests, 519 were negative and 77 positive. The "ring" test is not in itself conclusive proof of infection, and when the milk of a cow gave a positive reaction a sample of her milk was sent for culture and for guinea pig inoculation. The latter takes some six weeks. It appeared that 27 cows which gave positive "ring" tests did not give positive results on guinea pig inoculation. Seven cows were proved to be infected ; five of these were disposed of, said to be for slaughter, but in the case of two which were in one herd, the farmer chose to send all his milk for pasteurisation.

Brucellosis has been eradicated from Scandinavia and good progress is being made in eradication in a number of European Countries including Northern and Southern Ireland, but in this Country there is no scheme for eradication.

Strain 19 vaccine is available free and when given to calves reduces infection by 50 per cent, but only 50 per cent of calves are injected. On the other hand, although it is of little value to grown cows and confuses sampling by giving a false positive "ring" test, some of the cows listed above whose milk gave positive reactions were said to have been injected after calf-hood.

Pasteurisation renders milk safe whether infected with brucella or by any of the many other infections which may contaminate it, and all milk for human consumption should be pasteurised, but it is bad husbandry to leave such a disease endemic in the country. Milkers can be infected through cuts on their hands. It is estimated that only five per cent of the milk drunk in this Country is not pasteurised, but this percentage must be very much higher in this Area as judged by the number of dairy farmers selling milk by retail.

A District Council's Medical Officer of Health has a duty under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, to require that infected milk is not sold without being satisfactorily treated.

The County Council has a duty under Section 31 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, to prosecute a person who sells the milk of cows affected with certain diseases which includes brucellosis, and after all the trouble taken in detecting an infected cow, action should be taken. The County Council has no choice or authority to require the pasteurisation of such milk.

I do not consider the use of the same machinery used for milking healthy cows for selling milk raw and for milking infected cows whose milk goes for pasteurisation, to be satisfactory.

In 1964, a young man on holiday from Birmingham in the Forest Area asked for a glass of milk each night and was given raw milk. He developed undulant fever ; no infection was found in the milk on investigation but this does not prove it was not infected when served. He was sure he had had no raw milk elsewhere.

For a farmer to sell a cow that he knows to be infected to enter another herd is playing with health and is wasteful of rates, but this has happened and several of the cows mentioned above were acquired in this way.



## **Salmonellosis in Farm Animals**

A circular of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food issued during the year, required Divisional Veterinary Officers to notify the Medical Officer of Health of an outbreak of salmonellosis where it appears that there is a threat to public health.

I was notified of an outbreak of scouring in calves caused by *Salmonella dublin* in the East Dean Rural District and of two outbreaks amongst calves in the Newent Rural District, one due to *Salmonella dublin* and one to *Salmonella typhimurium*.

*Salmonella* in farm animals must be a large reservoir of infection and it appears difficult to imagine an outbreak that would not be a threat to public health.

## **Public Health Laboratory**

The Newport Laboratory is the one normally used. Specimens are posted or delivered as is appropriate. The Director, Dr. R. D. Gray, and his staff have given excellent service over a number of years.

The new Public Health Laboratory at Gloucester under the Director, Dr. A. E. Wright, will be of value for the eastern part of my Area.

## **Analyst**

The University of Bristol Analyst, who is the County Analyst, is normally used.

# **EAST DEAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **Public Health Committee**

Chairman : J. I. DUBERLEY

Vice-Chairman : C. JACKSON

Members (from May, 1965) : F. C. Beard, R. J. Bevan, M. Brain, H. C. Byett, R. E. Cadle, E. Cooke, F. A. Haines, R. A. Hawkins, A. H. Jones, K. W. W. Jones, W. E. F. Jones, G. B. Keyse, M. V. Lark, H. J. Marfell, W. Morris, K. L. Perkins, H. S. Phillips, W. G. St. Jewell, J. N. Taylor, T. E. Taylor, T.A. Trigg, L. J. Tuffley, L. S. Wilce, W. Wilkins and S. H. Yeatmen.

## **Public Health Staff**

Medical Officer of Health : A. T. HUNT, M.B., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior Public Health Inspector : A. D. PARSONS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector : R. L. PUGH, M.A.P.H.I.

Rodent Operator : C. BARNARD.

## **Statistics**

Population=20,950 (Registrar General's Estimate at mid 1965).

Area=30,078 acres.

Number of inhabited dwellings=6,900.

Rateable Value on the 1st April, 1965, was £427,450.

Product of a 1d. Rate on the 31st March, 1965, was £1,653.

Number of Live Births=395. Number of Deaths=253.

Excess of Births over Deaths=142.

Birth Rate=18.8 live births per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparability factor of 1.04 this gives a corrected rate of 19.6.

Death Rate=12.1 deaths per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparability factor of 1.01 this gives a corrected rate of 12.2.

Adjustments of Boundary of District

Five hundred and fifty-two acres (56 properties) were transferred from the Mitcheldean Parish and thirteen acres (8 properties) from Longhope parish to the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District in Herefordshire.

One hundred and sixty-seven and three quarter acres (17 properties) were received by the Drybrook Parish from the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District.

Births and Infantile Deaths

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Totals		
	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total
Live Births	182	187	369	13	13	26	195	200	395
Still Births	3	1	4	—	—	—	3	1	4
Deaths of infants under 1 wk.	4	2	6	—	—	—	4	2	6
1-4 weeks	2	1	3	—	—	—	2	1	3
4 wks.-1 yr.	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2

Population, Number of Houses and Caravans and Mains Water Supply

Parish	Estimated Population	Number of Dwellings		Properties connected to Mains Water Supply
		Houses	Caravans	
Awre	1,778	552	2	507
Blaisdon	364	85	—	61
Churcham	766	237	1	174
Cinderford	6,878	2,310	24	2,282
Drybrook	2,785	955	3	935
Huntley	480	167	1	143
Littledean	1,414	446	4	429
Longhope	1,090	370	16	286
Mitcheldean	1,884	591	7	580
Ruardean	1,247	418	16	403
Ruspidge	2,264	665	30	641
TOTALS	20,950	6,796	104	6,441

Mr A. H. Moore, the Rating Officer, provided this table except for the population estimates.



## **PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr A. D. Parsons reports as follows :—

Many of the essential duties of the Public Health Department continued to be neglected because of insufficient staff.

Extra duties and responsibilities for the Department continued to increase and considerable time was taken up with administration, inter-departmental co-operation, appointments and technical advice.

There were 1,171 entries in the Complaints Register during the year and 5,238 visits and inspections were made.

For the size of the District, not enough samples were taken ; only 22 ice-cream and 59 water samples and no milk samples were taken.

Twenty-seven investigations were made in respect of suspected cases of dysentery, which all proved to be negative.

A number of complaints of atmospheric pollution were investigated.

The sudden death of Mr Cyril Barnard in the early part of the year was not only a shock but a great loss to the Department. He was a very willing and conscientious worker and his efficient service was greatly missed in many ways.

### **Drainage**

A survey on the necessity of a sewer at Newnham Road, Blakeney, was made for the Council to send to the Ministry.

The sewerage system at Huntley was completed and forty-one properties were connected.

Fifty-six sewer connections were made and six drainage plants were constructed, all of which required advisory visits and inspections before being finally passed as satisfactory.

### **Water Supply**

A total of fifty-nine water samples were taken of which fifty-six were for bacteriological examination and three for chemical analysis. The samples were taken from the sources of supply, existing mains and new mains extensions, and form a supplementary supply to the District by means of plastic pipes.

An enforcement notice was served under the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by the Water Act, 1945, to supply mains water to a cottage which had only a supply from a contaminated well.

### **Water Sampling**

To Newport Laboratory :

Number of samples taken from existing mains supply	...	40
Number of samples taken from supplementary supply	...	2
Number of samples taken from new mains extensions	...	5
All were reported on as being bacteriologically satisfactory.		
Number of samples taken from sources of supply	...	5
Four were found to be bacteriologically contaminated and one was satisfactory.		
Number of samples taken from wells	... ..	1
This sample was reported on as being bacteriologically contaminated.		



## To Bristol University and Public Health Laboratories

Number of samples taken from sources of supply				
Bacteriological	...	...	...	3
Chemical	...	...	...	3
All were found to be satisfactory.				

## Housing Act, 1957

### PART II

Properties reported to the Council as being unfit and incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense	<i>Houses</i>	24
	<i>Caravans</i>	3

Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted that :

(a) the houses would not be used for human habitation until made fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(b) the house would be made fit to the satisfaction of the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	11
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made in lieu of demolition orders	...	...	9
---	-----	-----	---

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were cancelled after necessary work had been completed and houses made fit	...	...	...	...	4
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Action under Section 18.

Number of closing orders on parts of buildings	...	...	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----

Action under Section 24.

Number of demolition orders revoked after properties involved had been made fit	...	...	...	...	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Action under Section 27.

Number of closing orders determined after properties had been made fit	...	...	...	...	...	3
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Action under Section 28.

Number of closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted	...	...	...	...	...	5
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Houses condemned but not demolished	...	...	...	7
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

Houses actually demolished	...	...	...	...	3
----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Houses remaining closed	...	...	...	...	6
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

### PART III

No Clearance or Re-development orders were made.

### PART IV

No statutory action was taken for overcrowding, in cases of overcrowding, reports and recommendations were made that such families should be re-housed.

## **PART V**

Twenty-two families were re-housed, four of which were from caravans.

Enforcement of demolitions were made in respect of three Demolition Orders. Two of these were carried out by the Council.

A great deal of time was spent in dealing with plans and specifications submitted in respect of unfit properties, also with interviews, advice on housing matters and re-housing.

### **Improvement Grants**

The liaison with the Housing Department continued with the consideration of applications for grants ; seventy-six grants were made.

Whenever plans were submitted to the Housing Department which were connected with health matters, these were passed to the Public Health Department for advice and observations.

### **Rent Act, 1957**

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received.

### **Refuse Collection and Disposal**

The refuse collection carried out by the contractors Messrs. A. E. Bayliss and C. Bell continued to function satisfactorily.

New collections were made at Ruardean Hill, Brierley, Harrow Hill and also the outskirts of Drybrook which had recently been transferred to Gloucestershire from Herefordshire.

Arrangements were also made for a ' door step ' collection from old age pensioners' bungalows at Soudley and from any houses of aged and physically handicapped people at Ruardean Woodside, Longhope and Huntley.

Because of the complaints received from the keepers of the new shops in Cinderford, arrangements were made for an extra collection to take trade refuse from these premises and for which a charge would be made.

The abandonment of old motor vehicles was a problem which caused some concern and a solution was being sought.

The two disused tips at Ruardean Woodside and at Plump Hill were satisfactorily covered over and the two remaining tips at Etloe and at Longhope required very little attention. ' Until new sites are found in the Drybrook and Mitcheldean Parishes, the Bilson Tip at Cinderford continues to be used.

The Forestry Commission was approached for other sites for refuse disposal and Great Berry Quarry, Brierley, was offered to the Council subject to a fully controlled tipping system being used.

### **Street Cleansing**

This service is growing rapidly and requests from Parish Councils for litter receptacles were increased. The older wire bins were being replaced by more attractive bins and receptacles in the parts of the District where the residents were litter conscious.

It was necessary to make other arrangements for the collection of litter and for the fixing and general maintenance of receptacles, after the death of Mr C. Barnard.

**Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960**

Planning Consents granted during the year by the County							
Planning Authority for individual caravans (temporary) ...							
Applications refused ... ..							
Total ... ..							

**Sites licenced**

							<i>No. of Caravans</i>
Woodview Orchard ... ..							30
Wyelands ... ..							12
Rocklands, Longhope ... ..							16
Valley Road, Cinderford ... ..							69
Queen’s Farm, Churcham ... ..							2
Sites for individual caravans ... ..							95
Total ... ..							224

There were two applications for licences which were not necessary because of exemption under the First Schedule to the Act.

The removal of two caravans from an unlicensed site was achieved without statutory action.

The Council decided that where the sanitary conditions for a licence could be complied with, no statutory action would be taken where no licence could be given because Planning Consent had been refused.

A site being used for camping in the Ruardean Parish was considered unsuitable for this purpose.

**Noise Abatement Act, 1960**

Several complaints were received, investigated and satisfactorily remedied.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951**

The annual licence was granted to the only pet shop in the District after it had been inspected and found to be satisfactory.

**Land Charges Act, 1925, as amended by the Law of Property (Amendment) Act, 1926**

Four hundred and four Land Searches were received for identification and observations of properties, twenty-eight of which required inspections.



### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

After the death of Mr C. Barnard, the Rodent Operator, at the end of March, a private contractor was engaged from the 1st August, to carry out the essential duties of the Council under the Act.

During the intervening months urgent complaints were dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors.

				<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Infested Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Treat- ments</i>
Council properties (Sewage Works and Refuse Tips	...	...	...	21	34	4	40
Dwelling Houses (including Council houses)	...	...	...	98	129	14	297
Other properties (including business premises)	...	...	...	27	29	2	69
Agricultural premises	...	...	...	4	4	—	6
Four treatments were given for other pests.							

### Factories Act, 1961

Factory premises registered at the commencement of 1965	...	74
Premises removed from register during year	...	Nil
Premises added to register during year	...	Nil
Number of premises registered at end of year	...	74

### Part I

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosec'ted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	3	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	71	42	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	74	45	—	—

2. No defects were found.



**Outworkers**

There were ninety-five outworkers, who were employed by a factory outside the District.

**Meat**

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958**

Nine slaughtermen were licenced to slaughter animals for food.

**Slaughterhouse**

There is one slaughterhouse in the District which is in Valley Road, Cinderford, and is privately owned.

**Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouse**

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part**

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	1,945	20	72	10,112	3,646	—
Number inspected ...	1,945	20	72	10,112	3,646	—
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	—	1	22	6	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	220	—	—	206	60	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.4	—	1.4	2.3	1.8	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	.14	—

*Cysticercosis* : No carcase was found to be infested with this condition.

## Meat condemned at Slaughterhouse

Carcase meat	...	...	...	2,665 lbs.
Bovine, sheep and pig livers	...	...	...	1,662 „
Lights	...	...	...	160 „
Pigs heads	...	...	...	132 „
Bovine heads	...	...	...	128 „
Sheep's heads	...	...	...	3 „

## Food Condemned (other than at Slaughterhouse)

Fresh meat	...	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Suet	...	...	...	...	18 lbs.
Tinned meat	...	...	...	...	118 tins
Fruit	...	...	...	...	220 „
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	177 „
Milk	...	...	...	...	30 „
Cream	...	...	...	...	11 „
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	...	11 „
Rice Pudding	...	...	...	...	6 „
Soup	...	...	...	...	4 „

## Ice-cream

Premises registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

For the Manufacture and sale (Cold Mix method only was used)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
For the storage and sale of (pre-packed) ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	127

Number of ice-cream samples taken during year	...	...	22
---	-----	-----	----

Grade One	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Grade Two	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grade Three	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grade Four	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Two samples were not of sufficient standard to be tested.

## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

A survey was made of all premises showing notices of ' Bed and Breakfast ' accommodation.

No complaints were received of foreign matter in food.

There was one registration of premises for the preparation of food under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. This was for the manufacture of sausages.

**Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

Three applications were made in respect of such premises, which were inspected and registered accordingly.

**Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

	<i>Premises</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
<i>Registrations</i>			
Offices ... ..	37	119	68
Retail shops ... ..	84	130	222
Wholesale shops and warehouses	4	19	6
Catering Establishments and Canteens ... ..	6	3	30
Fuel storage depots ... ..	1	1	0
	<hr/> 132	<hr/> 272	<hr/> 326

It is regretted that progress in the operation of this new Act was disappointing because of the shortage of experienced staff. However, urgent matters were dealt with, such as the returns to the Ministry of Labour, advice and explanations about registrations, investigations of complaints and accidents, and perusal of plans for new premises or for alterations to ensure compliance with this new Act.

Only one accident was reported and investigated.

**ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR’S REPORT**

Mr J. A. N. Butterworth, A.I.A.S., reports as follows :—

**Water Supply**

The Council was concerned with the water supply only to the 1st April, 1965, when it was taken over by the newly formed North West Gloucestershire Water Board.

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

- (i) The Huntley Village Scheme was completed and all properties that could be, were connected to the sewers.
- (ii) The enlargement of the Soudley disposal works was completed and put into service.
- (iii) The sewerage of Soudley Village was postponed due to Government restrictions.
- (iv) A small extension at Hitchins Road, Blakeney, to serve approximately twelve properties, was completed.
- (v) The new sewer to serve the Industrial Development on the Whimsey Estate, Cinderford, was completed and joined to the main valley sewer.
- (vi) The start was made in November with the excavations for the new Crump Meadow Sewerage Works; this will treat the sewage of Drybrook and part of Cinderford.



**Refuse Collection**

A new continuous loading refuse vehicle of 20 cubic yards capacity with compressing mechanism was ordered. The volume of refuse still continues to increase, especially of paper cartons.

**Petroleum Licences**

Fifty-nine licences were issued for the storage of petroleum and petroleum mixtures.

**HOUSING PROGRESS**

Mr L. A. Andrews, D.P.A., the Housing Officer, reports as follows on the number of houses completed :—

**Council Houses**

PARISH	Pre-War	Post-War up to 1964	Completed 1965		Total
			Houses	O.P.B.	
Awre	—	36	—	—	36
Blaisdon	—	—	—	—	—
Churcham	—	12	—	—	12
Cinderford	80	306	—	—	386
Drybrook	6	136	6	—	148
Huntley	—	8	—	—	8
Littledean	—	91	4	—	95
Longhope	6	24	—	—	30
Mitcheldean	6	159	3	—	168
Ruardean	10	79	4	2	95
Ruspidge	26	92	7	—	125
Total	134	943	24	2	1,103

**Private Dwellings**

The number of private dwellings completed during the year was 73, making a total of 779 since 1946.

**Improvement Grants**

During the year applications were investigated and grants were approved by the Council as follows :—

Type of Grant					Number approved in 1965	Number completed in 1965
Standard	...	...	...	...	73	52
Discretionary	...	...	...	...	3	8



## **Applicants for Council Accommodation**

There were 660 applicants for Council houses and 56 applicants for bungalows at the end of the year.

## **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S SUMMARY**

### **Mains Water Supply**

Twenty-seven samples were taken from taps at different parts of the area of supply throughout the year. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

Thirteen samples were taken from taps on the Southern Area supply. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

Five samples were taken in connection with mains extensions.

Raw Water : Chemical analyses were done on samples of the sources : St. Anthony's Well, Adit and Deep Well in January. These were satisfactory. Bacteriological examinations done at the same time showed no contamination. Bacteriological examinations done on samples of the waters of St. Anthony's Well and the Adit in December showed contamination ; one on the water of the Deep Well done at the same time did not. A sample taken of the raw water of the Southern Area supply in December showed contamination.

Towards the end of 1964, a crisis in supply arose and a supplementary supply was obtained from the Gloucester Corporation mains by laying three miles of 6 ins. plastic (Civil Defence) pipes overground from Westbury to the Pumping Station at Greenbottom. By a relay of temporary pumps, just under 200,000 gallons a day were obtained from 8th December, 1964, to 27th January, 1965, at a cost of £4,174 or 10s. 3d. per 1,000 gallons plus a great deal of work by the City Water Engineer and his staff, the Auxiliary Fire Brigade, the Civil Defence Corps and the Council's staff. The pipes were dismantled at the end of January, but kept on loan and were relaid in May.

The amount pumped from the Greenbottom sources was 524,000 gallons at the beginning of January to 733,000 at the beginning of April falling to 541,000 in June. The Council also received an amount from the West Dean supply varying from 97,800 gallons a day in February, to 209,000 gallons a day in June.

### **Sewerage**

The Surveyor has listed the points of interest during the year.

The sewerage of Longhope was again considered and in view of the growth of Mitcheldean associated with the extension to the Rank Xerox Factory, overloading the Mitcheldean works, the Council's Consulting Engineers were investigating the advantages of constructing works at Longhope large enough to serve both Parishes.

## **Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960**

The Public Health Inspector could not supply a report on the number of food premises subject to these Regulations grouped in categories with the numbers fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19, as time could not be found. It will be noted that there were only two Inspectors for this Rural District which has a population of 20,950 and an acreage of 30,078, and that there is a busy abattoir. Furthermore, a large proportion of the properties are poor having been built by or for miners and many are on scattered sites giving much of the District a semi-urban character.

# LYDNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Public Health Committee

Chairman : A. F. G. HOPES  
Vice-Chairman : G. J. Bennett

Members (from May, 1965) : Councillors Mrs A. B. Reissner, I. J. Brown, N. H. Cooke, W. G. Creswick, M. G. Edwards, D. G. Emery, P. E. Goatman, H. Harley, J. W. Manson, R. Meredith, C. E. Phelps, T. L. Richards, C. R. Smith and M. R. Wyman.

## Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health : A. T. HUNT, M.B., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.  
Public Health Inspector : W. M. Richards, M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H.

## Statistics

Population=13,840 (Registrar General's Estimate at mid 1965).  
Area=24,597 acres.  
Number of inhabited dwellings=4,363.  
Rateable Value on the 1st April, 1965, was £391,660.  
Product of a 1d. Rate on the 31st March, 1965, was £1,526 10s. 5d.  
Number of Live Births=219. Number of Deaths=116.  
Excess of Births over Deaths=103.  
Birth Rate=15.8 live births per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparatability factor of 1.14 this gives a corrected rate of 18.0.  
Death Rate=8.4 deaths per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparatability factor of 1.12 this gives a corrected rate of 9.4.

## Births and Infantile Deaths

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Totals		
	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total
Live Births	106	105	211	6	2	8	112	107	219
Still Births	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	2	3
Deaths of infants under 1 wk.	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
1-4 wks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 wks.-1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



Population, Number of Houses and Mains Water Supply

Parish	Estimated Population	Number of Dwellings	Properties connected to Mains Water Supply	
			(i) Direct	(ii) Standpipe
Alvington ...	400	134	114	1
Aylburton ...	837	276	247*	—
Hewelsfield ...	380	144	119	—
Lydney ...	5,350	1,956	1,928	—
St Briavels ...	1,200	415	364	—
Tidenham ...	4,846	1,154	1,128	—
Woolaston ...	827	284	251	2
TOTALS ...	13,840	4,363	4,151	3

\*This includes 78 dwellings supplied by the Aylburton Village supply.

The figures for the number of dwellings and the connections to the Mains Water Supply were given by D. S. Bennett, A.R.V.A., the Rating Officer.

The population estimate includes 855 apprentices at the Beachley Army Apprentices' School.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr W. M. Richards reports as follows :—

Housing

Housing Act, 1957

Individual Unfit Houses considered by the Council :

Action under sections 16/17.

(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	8
(ii)	Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted that the houses would not be used for human habitation until made fit	...	...	...	...	...	3
(iii)	Number of dwellings in respect of which closing orders were made in lieu of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	...	3

Action under section 18.

Number of closing orders on parts of dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Action under section 27.

Number of closing orders determined after properties had been made fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses condemned but not demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Houses actually demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses remaining closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Clearance Area

Of the eight houses included in the Post Office Row Clearance Order, 1956, seven houses have been demolished.

Slum Clearance

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No. 11/65.

A further list of 79 houses, which in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health and myself are unfit, were submitted to the Public Health Committee.

Summary :

Alvington ... ..	7	Lydney ... ..	33
Aylburton ... ..	4	St. Briavels ... ..	14
Hewelsfield ... ..	6	Tidenham ... ..	8
Woolaston ... ..	7		

Rent Act, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair under the above Act were received.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

	Sites for Individual Caravans	Permanent Residential Sites
Applications received during 1965 for the first time ... ..	10	—
Applications received during 1965 for the renewal of licences ... ..	10	—
	20	—
Applications granted during 1965 ... ..	13	—
Applications refused during 1965 ... ..	3	—
Applications in respect of which a decision was not made during 1965 ... ..	3	—
Applications which fell within the first schedule of the Act (no site licence necessary) ...	1	—
	20	—

Number of Sites (in respect of which licences have been granted) in Parishes :—

	Sites for Individual Caravans	Permanent Residential Sites
Alvington ... ..	2	—
Aylburton ... ..	2	—
Hewelsfield ... ..	9	—
Lydney ... ..	9	—
St Briavels ... ..	6	—
Tidenham ... ..	8	1
Woolaston ... ..	1	—
	—	—
	37	1
	—	—

## Water Samples

Eighty-one samples were submitted to the following Laboratories :—  
*University of Bristol, Canynge Hall, Bristol.*

Six samples were taken for chemical analysis and five for bacteriological examination from the raw waters of the main supplies :

			<i>Bacteriological</i>	<i>Chemical</i>
Ferneyley Supply	...	...	1	1
Tufts Level Supply	...	...	4	5

One sample for chemical analysis and one for bacteriological examination were taken from the borehole on the Lydney Industrial Estate.

*Public Health Laboratory, Newport*

				<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>	<i>Free Chlorine Estimate</i>
Samples taken from taps on mains supplies :					
Ferneyley Supply	...	...	...	8	3
Tufts Level Supply	...	...	...	20	10
Aylesmore (Rodmore) Boreholes			...	6	1
Aylburton Village Supply	...	...		2	—
Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board	...	...	...	3	2
				—	—
				39	16
From containers (Tufts Level and Gloucester City Supplies)					
Wells	...	...	...	3	1
Bathurst Swimming Pool	...	...	...	1	—
				4	4

## Milk

### The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

Dairies not at farms	...	...	1
Distributors	...	...	37
Distributors with premises outside the area	...	...	6

### Milk Samples (Milk Vending Machines)

In the District, at the present time, there are three Vending Machines which are licensed to sell a Designated Milk. Four samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, and reported upon as follows :—

			<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	...	...	1	1
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	2	—

### Sedbury Dairies Limited

Number of Producers : 51

Average daily through-put of milk : 3,000 gallons

Bottles (daily average) : 29,950



## Ice-cream

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Section 16

There are 66 premises registered.

Premises registered :

For manufacture (cold mix methods used) ... ..	2
For storage and sale (pre-packed) ... ..	64

Twenty samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which eighteen were placed in Provisional Grade 1, one in Grade 2 and one in Grade 4.

Visits were made but no action was found to be necessary in respect of the handling of ice-cream or of the condition of the premises.

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Description of Food Premises	Number of Shops complying with sections 16 and 19	Number of Shops complying with section 19 Only	Remarks
Grocery ...	22	7	The premises which do not comply with section 16 are those which form part of a dwelling and where no staff is employed. Washing facilities are provided in the dwelling.
Confectioners ...	6	4	ditto
Butchers ...	9	5	One shop was voluntarily closed during the year owing to restricted accommodation.
Fishmongers ...	1	1	One shop did not comply with section 16 and the attention of the owner was drawn to this defect. Good hygienic conditions were maintained in both premises.
Fruiterers and Greengrocers ...	3	1	Shop not complying with section 16 employ no staff.
Fried Fish Shops	1	1	Good hygienic condition.
Cafes ...	2	—	Good hygienic condition.
School Canteens ...	13	—	The attention of the Education Authority was drawn to one School where the sink unit was unsatisfactory.
Factory Canteens	5	—	Good hygienic conditions.

Alterations and improvements were carried out to six shops in the area.

There are 28 licensed premises in the District. Regular meals are served at five of these premises and snacks at eight. Hygienic condition of all premises was satisfactory.

Seven mobile shops (meat and grocery) operate in the District. All have fixed sink units. This figure is subject to fluctuation during the year.

**Food Premises**

						<i>Inspections</i>
Number inspected of the following :—						
(a)	Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	76
(b)	Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	31
(c)	Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	44
(d)	Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	9
(e)	Other Food Premises, including Mobile Shops, School and Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	19

**Meat**

**Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection**

Slaughtering is carried out between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday in each week and it has been possible to maintain a 100 per cent inspection of all animals slaughtered.

Slaughtering was only carried out at the one licensed slaughterhouse.

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part**

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	63	—	3	420	32	—
Number inspected ...	63	—	3	420	32	—
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	6	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	3.2	—	—	1.4	9.4	—

Cysticercosis : No animal slaughtered was found to be affected by this infestation.

Tuberculosis : Again I am pleased to report that no carcass, part of a carcass or organ of the animals slaughtered during the year was affected with tuberculosis.

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958**

The Council in pursuance of the powers conferred on them by Section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, issued the following licences during the year :—

To slaughter and stun cattle, calves, sheep and pigs ...	6
To slaughter and stun pigs only ... ..	8
To slaughter and stun cattle, calves, sheep and pigs under supervision ... ..	1

Amount of Meat and other Foods condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

2 Bovine Livers ... ..	26 lbs.
6 Sheep Livers ... ..	11 lbs.
1 Pig carcass ... ..	64 lbs.
2 Pigs' Livers ... ..	4 lbs.
1 tin Corned Beef (imported) ... ..	6 lbs.
6 tins Corned Beef	
16 tins Tomatoes	
5 lbs. Margarine	
6 lbs. Cheese	
1 tin Pineapple	
1 tin Beetroot	
2 tins Apricots	
5 tins Peaches	
30 lbs. Butter	
14 lbs. Chocolate	
1 tin Beef	
7½ lbs. Prawns	
Haddock ... ..	1 stone
Hake ... ..	6 lbs.
Cod Fillet ... ..	3½ stone

At three premises, because of the failure of the Deep Freeze Plant, 586 articles of various foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered to me, which, upon examination, were found to be unfit for human consumption.



# Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

## Report for the year ended 31st December, 1965 :—

	Type of Property			
	Local Auth.	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricl. Premises
Number of Properties inspected by Local Authority as a result of :—				
(a) Notification ... ..	2	64	14	4
(b) Survey under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	—	—	—	—
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited for other purposes) ...	6	80	180	—
Total inspections including re- inspections ... ..	17	192	220	12
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :—				
(a) Rats : Major ... ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..	2	54	14	4
(b) Mice : Major ... ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..	—	10	—	—
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	2	54	14	4
Number of Block Control schemes carried out ... ..	—	—	—	—

During the year all Council properties, including refuse tips, sewer systems and stores, were kept under regular observation and where necessary were treated with either Warfarin baits or Cymag Gas.

Test baiting of the sewers in the area was carried out during October, and were found to be clear with the exception of one at Sedbury which required extensive treatment.

Part of the River Lyd at Forest Road, Lydney, was successfully treated during November, and a follow up inspection was carried out later to ensure that the infestation had been cleared.

Inspection for rat and mouse infestation was incorporated with inspection for other purposes at 180 business premises. In addition 54 dwelling houses and 14 business premises, as well as 4 farms, were treated against rodent infestation, as a result of inspection and notification.

Infestations were again reported in the Hill Street, Forest Road and Swan Road, Lydney, areas. After the Company responsible for the maintenance of the Cut had cleared the overgrowth, it was possible to inspect the watercourse, after which an effective treatment was carried out.

The decrease in rodent infestations has no doubt, been due to the close co-operation between the Council's Rodent Contractors, Rat-souris Ltd., and myself.

I should like to thank Mr H. F. Lewis, Divisional Executive Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, for his advice and ready assistance in all matters relating to infestations in the area.

### Lydney Shipping

Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the year 1965 :—

Coastwise	Number (Motors) (Sailing)	Tonnage	Number reported to be defective	Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied
—	549	23,227	—	—

### Traffic Summary, 1965

Year	Vessels Inwards	Vessels Outwards	Timber Imported	Coal Exported	Other Cargoes
1964	536	528	38,028 tons	—	—
1965	549	539	31,500 tons	—	—
Increase	13	11	—	—	—
Decrease	—	—	6,528 tons	—	—

### Factories Act, 1961

#### Part I

#### I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authori- ties ... ..	2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Auth- ority ... ..	48	21	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding outworkers' prem- ises) ... ..	9	8	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	59	31	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (Defects discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions are reckoned as two, three or more “ cases ”).

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	3	3	—	3	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	3	—

### Register of Factories

Changes during the year : added 4, deleted 3.

### Outworkers

Whitcroft (Lydney) Ltd., Lydney, Glos. : 12

Typrod Ltd., Lydney, Glos. : 12



### **Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928**

Forty-seven licences were issued by the Council for the storage of Petroleum Spirit :—

Number on the Register at the end of 1964	...	...	44
Number of Licences granted by the Council	...	...	3
Number of transfers	...	...	2
Summary : Filling Stations	...	18	
Farms	...	8	
Factories	...	9	
Quarries	...	2	
Business Premises	...	10	Total 47

### **Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929**

Two premises were licensed for the keeping of carbide of calcium

### **Game Act, 1831**

One Game Dealer's Licence was granted under the above Act.

### **Public Health Act**

Complaints : Of the complaints received under the above Act, one half were in respect of defective drainage systems and the number reported was forty per cent less than in 1964.

### **Fairgrounds**

Fairs are held annually at Lydney and Tutshill and visits were made, when it was found that water supply and sanitary accommodation were adequately provided.

### **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

A temporary assistant, Mr R. F. Havard, was appointed by the Council in July, to assist in the survey of premises under the above Act, and the survey was completed in December.

A total of 148 premises were visited, 54 of these where no persons, other than members of the family are employed, are exempt under sections 2 and 3 of the Act. In a number of premises (other than food premises) there were unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. Four premises were considered overcrowded due to restricted accommodation. Several premises failed in technicalities, such as not having a room temperature gauge, first-aid equipment and not displaying an abstract from the Act inside the building.

### **Licensed Premises**

The attention of the owners was drawn to alterations and improvements necessary to the sanitary accommodation at three premises.

### **Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

Two licences authorising the keeping of boarding establishments for animals were granted.

## **Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions)**

### **Act, 1963**

Seasonal casual gangs are employed on a few farms during the black-currant and potato harvesting and temporary sanitary accommodation was provided.

## **Land Charges Act, 1925, as amended by the Law of Property (Amendment) Act, 1926**

Two hundred and eighty-four Land Searches were passed through the Public Health Department for observation, a number of which required identification and inspection.

### **Scrap Metal Dealer's Act, 1964**

One premises was registered during the year.

### **Clean Air Act, 1956**

From observations taken at intervals over a long period, it was found that the emission of "dark smoke" from the chimneys of four factories did not meet with the requirements of the above Act.

The nuisance from the chimney of a factory at Sedbury was abated by the use of improved fuel.

Two factories on the Industrial Estate, Lydney, where outdated boilers are still in use, remain a problem. The other factory on the Estate, where a new destructor and steam boiler has been installed, has unfortunately been unsuccessful in preventing the emission of "dark smoke."

The matter was reported to the Public Health Committee and it was agreed that the managements be written to before formal action to abate the nuisance is taken by the Council.

In the three boiler houses, improved equipment, approved fuel and intelligent application of the rules of combustion, could go far to reduce smoke effluent.

## **ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT**

Mr H. I. Spratt, M.I.MUN.ENG., A.M.T.P.I., M.R.S.H., reports as follows :—

### **Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme at St Briavels, which was completed at the latter part of 1964, has worked very satisfactorily and a further ten houses have been connected.

At Alvington there is a similarly designed plant taking the drainage from Alvington and Woolaston, but for some unforeseen circumstances, this has not been working at all satisfactorily. The amount of sludge accumulating on the drying beds is far too high and is most difficult to



dry out ; also it would appear there is a considerable amount of infiltration into the sewers. Inspections have been made at various points on the lines of the sewers, but this has not revealed the trouble and it may require a very detailed investigation and examination to locate it. However, until this has been remedied, the plant is overloaded and will continue to give trouble.

The drainage scheme for Aylburton Common has been completed and at the end of the year approximately thirty-four houses were connected.

Tenders were invited for the comprehensive drainage system of the Sedbury and Tutshill area in the Parish of Tidenham and the tender accepted amounted to £179,889 ; work was commenced at the end of the year.

It has not been possible to devote much time to the problem of drainage at Brockweir, but it would appear that no easy solution is available. The best remedy would appear to limit development in this village, and any houses that may by necessary should be constructed on higher ground where drainage could be adequately dealt with.

The town of Lydney continues to expand steadily and the existing sewerage system, which was constructed in 1901, is now becoming taxed to its limits and during the period of high tide, flooding in a few places occurs. Instructions have been given to the Consulting Engineers to prepare a comprehensive drainage system making due allowance for future expansion. This work is in hand but it will be at least a year or two before any results can be expected to be seen.

HOUSING PROGRESS

Mr H. I. Spratt, the Engineer and Surveyor, reports as follows :—  
Sixty-six new Council houses were completed during the year and the number of houses erected by the Authority by the end of 1965 is as follows :—

Parish	1965	Pre-War and up to 1946	Post-War including 1965	Total
Alvington ...	—	14	19	33
Aylburton ...	4	8	40	48
Hewelsfield ...	—	6	6	12
Lydney ...	24	259	320	579
St Briavels ...	—	8	26	34
Tidenham ...	32	50	176	226
Woolaston ...	6	12	45	57
TOTAL ...	66	357	632	989

Eight Council houses were sold to sitting tenants during the year. This makes a total of 32 houses which have now been sold to tenants.  
In addition to the above the Council own twelve cottages at Lydney and six at Tutshill.



**Private Dwellings completed during the year**

One hundred and twenty-nine private dwellings were built during the year bringing the number built since the war to 840.

Parish						Houses	Bungalows
Alvington	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Aylburton	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Hewelsfield	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Lydney ...	...	...	...	...	...	56	11
St Briavels	...	...	...	...	...	—	7
Tidenham	...	...	...	...	...	21	23
Woolaston	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	80	49

**Improvement Grants**

During the year thirty-two Standard Grants were approved ; no applications were received for Discretionary Grants. The difference between Discretionary and Standard Grants is so small that the extra requirements for the former do not appear to make these worth applying for.

**Applicants for Council Accommodation**

There were 278 applicants for Council houses at the end of the year.

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S SUMMARY**

**Water Supply**

Sampling was done by the Public Health Inspector as shown in his Report.

Twenty-seven samples taken of the water from taps on the supplies were bacteriologically satisfactory. Three samples from taps at Tidenham of the Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board Supply, were bacteriologically satisfactory.

*Tufts Level* : The chemical analyses of the raw water were satisfactory but those taken for bacteriological examination showed pollution. It will be remembered that considerable pollution was found in this water in November, 1964, and it was presumed that this was from the large Bream pig farm. The effluent was disposed of differently and action was taken to divert the stream, into which some of this might run, from going underground. The amount of pollution decreased and after chlorination, it was bacteriologically satisfactory.

A chemical analysis of the raw Ferneyley water was satisfactory and an examination showed this supply to be bacteriologically satisfactory without treatment.

*Aylburton Village Supply* : This is a small untreated gravity feed supply. The situation of the source is such that it cannot be regarded as safe, but of two samples taken one showed slight contamination and one showed none.

### **Bathurst Swimming Pool**

A sample of water was taken from each the deep end and from the shallow end on two occasions. These were bacteriologically satisfactory and showed suitable small amounts of free chlorine. This pool continued to give very satisfactory and considerable service.

### **Sewerage**

The position is as stated in the Surveyor's Report. The Sedbury and Tutshill area of the Tidenham Parish urgently requires to be sewered ; extensive building has made the position critical.

# NEWENT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Public Health Committee

Chairman : R. S. CHEW

Vice-Chairman : MRS B. V. W. ROWDEN (*Resigned June, 1965*)

P. PRICE (*from June, 1965*)

Members (from May, 1965) : Councillors<sup>†</sup> B. D. Bodinham, J. M. Brooks, W. J. Cummins, F. Dunn, R. P. Ovington, W. E. Parry, J. M. Smith, J. W. K. Thackwell and F. A. Windsor-Clive.

## Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health : A. T. HUNT, M.B., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector : H. S. JENKINSON, A.I.A.S.,  
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Pests Officer : T. A. CHETWOOD

## Statistics

Population=9,090 (Registrar General's Estimate at mid 1965).

Area=41,111 acres (increased by adjustments from 40,845 acres).

Number of inhabited dwellings=2,941.

Rateable Value on the 1st April, 1965, was £158,129 os. od.

Product of a 1d. Rate on the 31st March, 1965, was £615 7s. 10d.

Number of Live Births=144. Number of Deaths=93.

Excess of Births over Deaths=51.

Birth Rate=15.9 live births per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparatibility factor of 1.10 this gives a corrected rate of 17.5.

Death Rate=10.2 deaths per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparatibility factor of 0.97 this gives a corrected rate of 9.9.

## Adjustments of Boundary of District

*Areas transferred from :*

Ross and Whitchurch Rural District

Upton Bishop Parish to Kempley Parish—87 acres containing 9 properties.

Aston Ingham Parish to Newent Parish—90 acres containing 11 properties.

Upton-on-Severn Rural District

Eldersfield and Pendock Parishes to Redmarley Parish—102 acres containing 4 properties.



*Area transferred to :*  
Upton-on-Severn Rural District  
Staunton Parish to Eldersfield Parish—13 acres containing 1 property.

## Births and Infantile Deaths

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Totals		
	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total
Live Births	75	64	139	2	3	5	77	67	144
Still Births	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths of infants									
under 1 week	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-4 weeks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 wks.-1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Population, Number of Houses, Mains Water Supply and Sewerage

Parish	Estimated Population	Number of Dwellings	Properties connected to Mains Water Supply		Properties with water closets connected to	
			(i) Direct	(ii) Standpipe	(i) Sewer	(ii) Sept. Tank
Bromsberrow	234	70	51	—	—	32
Corse	480	159	138	—	38	80
Dymock	1,200	381	322	3	50	100
Hartpury	798	248	243	—	21	100
Kempley	265	89	72	—	—	48
Newent	3,400	1,089	1,075	14	613	191
Oxenhall	246	71	53	—	—	30
Pauntley	164	53	27	—	—	27
Redmarley	787	251	223	—	17	105
Rudford	243	84	68	—	—	48
Staunton	369	125	122	—	—	80
Taynton	408	150	126	—	—	93
Tibberton	294	99	98	—	—	52
Upleadon	202	72	59	—	—	43
Totals ...	9,090	2,941	2,677	17	739	1,029

The North West Gloucestershire Water Board supplied all the properties on the mains except the following :—

Malvern Urban District Council supplies all the 51 properties served at Bromsberrow, 52 properties at Dymock and 19 at Redmarley.

# SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr H. S. Jenkinson reports as follows :—

## Public Health Section Housing

### Housing Act, 1957

#### PART II

Action under Sections 16/17.

(a)	(i)	Dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
	(ii)	Dwellings in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
	(iii)	Dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted that							
		(a)	the houses would not be used for human habitation until made fit	...	...	...			6
		(b)	that works would be done to make the properties fit	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b)		Closing orders determined after properties had been made fit (Section 27)	...	...	...	...	...		I
		Closing order on part of a dwelling determined					...		—
(c)		Unfit houses in which defects were remedied or made fit by informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
(d)		Unfit houses in temporary use	...	...	...	...	...		—

#### PART IV

Overcrowding : Eight cases of overcrowding were remedied by re-housing in Council houses.

### Rent Act, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received.

# Factories Act, 1961

## Part I

### I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosec'ted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	6	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	20	15	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	8	8	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	34	29	1	—



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (Defects discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions are reckoned as two, three or more “ cases ”).

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosec'tns were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	1	—

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955

This Department is notified when shops or individuals suspect that items of food are unfit for human consumption. The following was condemned during the year :—

Frozen chicken	...	...	387 lbs.
Frozen whole hen egg	...	...	336 lbs.

### Ice-cream

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the District. Twenty-six premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream ; one is for soft ice-cream and the others are for pre-packed ice-cream.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Type of Business	Total No.	No. of Inspections	Remarks
Cafes and Canteens	15	40	This includes school canteens.
Grocery and Provision Shops	34	40	This includes sweet shops and chemists shops.
Ice-cream Vendors	26	48	Registered under S.16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
Butchers Shops ...	7	52	(This includes two Mobile Traders from outside the District). Three registered under S.16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (sausage making, etc.).
Fishmongers ...	2	10	(This includes one Mobile van). There is one fried fish shop in the District.
Bakehouses ...	3	2	All in good hygienic condition. Registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959. Egg Packing and Poultry Dressing Stations.
Licensed Premises	20	25	
Dairies ...	3	12	
Wholesale Premises (food manufacture)	2	5	

All the above food premises comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Land Charges Act, 1925, as amended by the Law of Property (Amendment) Act, 1926

Two hundred and thirty-eight Land Searches passed through the Department for observation and checking.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Report by the Additional Public Health Inspector and Pests Officer :  
During the year the following work was carried out :—

Type of Property	Inspections	Treatments
Local Authority :		
Sewage works and Refuse tips ...	28	3
Dwelling houses (including Council houses) ...	226	9
All other (including Business Premises) ...	68	2
Total ...	322	14
Agriculture ...	27	4

## Details of work carried out on Sewers and Refuse Tips :—

Sewers and Works					Action Taken	Result
Cleeve Lane Sewage Works	...	...			Inspection	Clear
Cadbury's Sewage Works	...	...			Inspection	Clear
Newent Town Sewers	...	...	...	...	Test Baited	Clear
Dymock Sewerage System	...	...			Test Baited	Clear
Refuse Tips					Action Taken	Result
Hooks Lane	...	...	...	...	Treatments	Clear
Kempley	...	...	...	...	Treatments	Clear
Dymock	...	...	...	...	Treatments	Clear

When this Council carries out treatment at private dwellings or business premises at the request of the owner/occupier, charges are made to cover the full cost of treatment, except in the case of old age pensioners.

The Council have no arrangements to carry out disinfestation by contract.

One of the Council's employees undertakes part-time duty in rodent control when necessary. The methods employed are those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Table A. Registrations.

Class of Premises	Premises Registered during the year	Registered Premises at end of year	Registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ... ..	—	10	2
Retail Shops ... ..	—	24	2
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens ...	—	3	—
Fuel storage depots ... ..	—	1	—

Table B. Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises : 12.



Table C. Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises by workplace.

Class of workplace									Persons employed
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Catering establishments open to the public	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Male	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Female	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	152

**Caravan Licences**

Forty-two caravan sites are licenced throughout the District for 49 caravans. There are no large caravan sites.

**Water Supplies**

The waters from 10 wells were examined bacteriologically and found to be unsatisfactory.

**Meat**

**Slaughterhouses**

There are three slaughterhouses in the District : one at Newent, one at Tibberton and one at Dymock, the last being used only occasionally. All slaughterhouses comply with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations.

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958**

Seven slaughtermen are licensed in the District.

# Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

## Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	351	—	2	1,657	477	—
Number inspected ...	351	—	2	1,657	477	—
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	3	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	17	—	—	20	27	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	4.8	—	—	1.4	6.1	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	0.4	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Surveyor's Section

### Improvement Grants

Discretionary Grants for conversion or improvement of housing accommodation.

Application approved :

Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	10

Standard Grants for improvement of dwellings :

Applications approved	...	...	...	49
Grants paid after completion of work	...	...	...	30

Number of amenities provided : baths 30, wash-hand basins 30, hot water systems 30, water closets 30 and food stores 22.

### Refuse Collection

The position is unchanged, with a weekly collection in Newent Town and fortnightly throughout the remainder of the District. Consideration was given to a scheme for providing a new depot at Cleeve Lane, Newent.

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

### Newent

The new Cleeve Lane Sewage Disposal Works were officially opened on the 7th July, 1965. The works are designed to provide treatment facilities for a resident population of 3,000 together with 1,170 school children and staff, and the dry weather flow is estimated at 127,000 gallons per day. The layout of the works is such that duplication could be readily done when necessary.

Ancillary works completed include a pumping station which pumps sewage from the northern part of the Town into the main sewerage system. The small separate sewage works which dealt with this area has been abandoned.

Three stormwater overflows have been provided to limit the flow at the disposal works to eight times the dry weather rate of flow.

### Tibberton and Bromsberrow Heath

Draft sewerage layouts for the above two villages were considered and accepted by the Council.

### Hartpury

Agreement has been reached with the Gloucester Rural District Council for Hartpury and Ashleworth to be sewered jointly, with the disposal works in the latter Parish.

### Corse—Prince Crescent

The above works, designed to deal with a small Council Estate and adjacent private houses, is overloaded by approximately 50 per cent. Planning approval to any further development on the line of this sewer



is being withheld until new works are completed. The Council's Consulting Engineers have been asked to prepare a scheme for extending the area sewered and providing a larger sewage disposal works.

**Dymock**

The position is unchanged.

**Public Conveniences**

There are two public conveniences in Newent and one at Dymock. Coin boxes on water closet doors have been removed and wash-hand basins were installed in the men's section at one of the Newent conveniences and in that at Dymock.

**Petroleum Storage**

Fifty-one premises were licensed for bulk storage of petrol.

**HOUSING PROGRESS**

Mr H. S. Jenkinson reports as follows on the number of houses completed :—

**Council Houses**

The following new houses were erected :—

West View, Newent (Stage 3) : 20.

Work commenced on Pimms Site (24) and The Crypt, Dymock (21) and site works were carried out at The Crypt, Dymock (21).

Parish	1965	Pre-war	Post-war including 1965	Total
Bromsberrow ...	—	6	4	10
Corse ...	—	6	20	26
Dymock ...	—	16	29	45
Hartpury ...	—	10	11	21
Kempley ...	—	4	12	16
Newent ...	20	54	158	212
Oxenhall ...	—	—	6	6
Pauntley ...	—	—	—	—
Redmarley ...	—	8	16	24
Rudford ...	—	—	4	4
Staunton ...	—	6	6	12
Taynton ...	—	8	7	15
Tibberton ...	—	2	4	6
Upleadon ...	—	6	6	12
TOTAL ...	20	126	283	409

**Applicants for Council Accommodation**

There were 170 applicants for Council houses at the end of the year.

**Private Houses**

Forty-three private houses were erected during the year making a total of four hundred and sixty-one during the post-war period.

# WEST DEAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Public Health Committee

Chairman : W. G. MORGAN

Members (from May, 1965) : Councillors Miss J. E. Davies, Mrs M. I. C. Tandy, F. R. Davies, W. F. Gwilliam, S. W. Hatton, G. T. D. Jenkins, A. W. Price, F. D. Smith and P. L. Thomas.

## Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health : A. T. Hunt, M.B., B.S. (LOND.), D.P.H.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior Public Health Inspector : W. T. BEBB, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector : J. BUCHAN, CERT. R. SAN. ASSOC.  
SCOTLAND

Assistant to the Public Health Inspector : E. T. NELMES

## Statistics

Population=17,690 (Registrar General's Estimate at mid 1965).

Area=24,140 acres.

Number of inhabited dwellings=5,900.

Rateable Value on the 1st April, 1965, was £358,718.

Product of a 1d. Rate on the 31st March, 1965, was £1,348 15s. 2d.

Number of Live Births=311. Number of Deaths=192.

Excess of Births over Deaths=119.

Birth Rate=17.6 live births per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparability factor of 1.04 this gives a corrected rate of 18.3.

Death Rate=10.9 deaths per 1,000 population. When this is multiplied by the area comparability factor of 0.96 this gives a corrected rate of 10.4.

## Adjustments of Boundary of District

*Area transferred to :*

Ross and Whitchurch Rural District.

English Bicknor Parish to Goodrich Parish—15 acres containing 6 properties.

### Births and Infantile Deaths

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Totals		
	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total	Male	Fem.	Total
Live Births	162	133	295	9	7	16	171	140	311
Still Births	2	2	4	—	—	—	2	2	4
Deaths of infants under 1 wk.	3	1	4	—	—	—	3	1	4
1-4 weeks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 wks.-1 yr.	2	3	5	—	—	—	2	3	5

### Population, Number of Houses and Caravans and Mains Water Supply

Parish	Estimated Population	No. of Dwellings	No. of Caravans	Connected to Mains Water Supply			
				Dwelling Houses		Caravans	
				(i) Direct	(ii)* Stand-pipe	(i) Direct	(ii)* Stand-pipe
WEST DEAN R.D.							
Coleford	3,600	1,086	39	1,074	3	33	6
English Bicknor	450	141	4	135	3	3	1
Lydbrook Parish	2,400	782	6†	756	8	4	1
Newland Parish	925	341	5	315	4	4	1
Staunton	200	69	1	67	—	—	1
WEST DEAN PARISH							
Berry Hill	1,670	522	18†	493	1	15	2
Bream	2,320	790	6	761	—	5	1
Broadwell	1,535	515	5†	505	—	3	1
Ellwood	540	177	9†	162	—	8	—
Milkwall	815	245	34	240	—	32	2
Parkend	650	208	1†	206	—	—	—
Pillowell	455	156	1	143	2	1	—
Viney Hill	400	127	7	118	—	4	3
Whitcroft	550	195	1	190	—	—	1
Yorkley	1,180	409	—	401	2	—	—
Total W.D. Parish	10,115	3,344	82	3,219	5	68	10
Total West Dean Rural District	17,690	5,763	137	5,566	23	112	20

\*Includes properties with an outside tap.

†This indicates that one caravan is included which is exempt from the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Mr E. Nelmes supplied me with the number of dwellings and the properties connected to the mains water supply for the above table.



## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Mr W. T. Bebb reports as follows :—

### Housing

#### Housing Act, 1957

(a) Action under Section 16/17.						
(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	20
(ii)	Number of dwellings in respect of which undertakings were accepted that					
(a)	the houses would cease to be used for human habitation	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	the houses would be made fit to the satisfaction of the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	1
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made in lieu of demolition orders	...				8
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were cancelled after necessary work had been completed and houses made fit	...	...	...		Nil
(b) Action under Section 18.						
	Number of closing orders made on parts of dwellings					Nil
(c) Action under Section 24.						
	Number of demolition orders revoked after properties had been made fit	...	...	...	...	2
(d) Action under Section 27.						
	Number of Closing Orders determined after properties had been made fit	...	...	...	...	1
(e) Action under Section 28.						
	Number of closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted	...	...	...	...	2
(f) Action under Part III (Clearance and Re-development) of the Housing Act, 1957						
		...	...	...	...	Nil

#### Housing Act, 1961

(a) Action under Section 26.						
	Number of demolition orders (made under Section 17 of the Principal Act) determined and closing orders substituted	...	...	...	...	1

#### Demolition of Condemned Properties

Thirty-seven houses were completely demolished during the year and a further forty-one were in the process of being demolished when the year ended.

No cottages were demolished in default of action by the owners.

As of necessity, almost all properties condemned in West Dean are dealt with as individual unfit houses and as quite a number are attached to cottages, which for one reason or another are not being dealt with, it is inevitable that sometimes closing orders are made in lieu of demolition orders.

At the end of the year seventy-one such orders were outstanding on properties scattered throughout the District. Although it is possible occasionally, when circumstances change, to alter these for demolition orders, the position is such that the number of such cottages must increase and the deterioration in their condition must have an increasingly marked effect on adjoining and almost always better properties as time goes on.

There are also 32 cottages which, over the years, have been made the subject of Undertakings. Although these also deteriorate progressively their effect is not quite so serious, as many of them are detached from any other cottages.

### **Slum Clearance**

Early in 1965 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requested local authorities 'to make a final estimate of the total number of houses considered to be unfit for human habitation by the standard which they now apply when considering whether property should be condemned . . . regardless of the time which would be required to clear them' ; the period to start in the 4th quarter of 1964.

On this basis and in anticipation that the clearance would take at least 5 years, a figure of 210 houses was submitted to the Ministry.

A total of 339 properties were dealt with under the Council's first slum clearance programme formulated in 1955, and a further 31 cottages in the interval between the end of that programme and October, 1964. Consequently, over 10% of all dwellings in West Dean will, as far as can be foreseen, be dealt with during the period from 1955 to 1970.

### **Improvement Grants**

The modernisation of sub-standard property in the District continues at a satisfactory rate. In the majority of cases where bathrooms have been installed, the work has been carried out with the aid of Standard Grants, and during 1965 a total of seventy-five applications were received, an increase of thirteen over the previous year.

Although additional repair work was requested by the Public Health Department in all of these instances, in many cases the extent of the work was relatively minor in nature.

Work on the improvement of dwellings with the aid of Standard Grants was satisfactorily completed in 32 cases during the year.



## **Water Supply**

### **Main Supply**

On 1st April, 1965, the control of water supplies became vested in the North West Gloucestershire Water Board but, because of the time required to organise adequate laboratory facilities, routine sampling of water supplies was still carried out by the Public Health Inspectors until the end of 1965.

Prior to April, twenty-two samples were taken and thereafter forty-nine were taken on behalf of the Water Board and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for bacteriological examination. These samples were taken from the sources at Redbrook, and Lydbrook, in addition to a number of chlorinated samples from various points on the mains supply.

All routine sampling will in future be undertaken by Water Board officials but this does not preclude the Public Health Department from taking samples and it is anticipated that this will be done from time to time, although on a lesser scale than in previous years.

### **Public Wells**

The closure of a considerable number of sub-standard properties by action under the Housing Act, coupled with an increase in the number of older properties being modernised has led to a marked reduction in those households which are dependent on public wells for domestic water supply.

## **Milk and Dairies**

### **Register of Dairies**

No change occurred in the number of dairies registered by the Council. There are four of these which do not of course include dairies situated at dairy farms, the latter being registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

### **Register of Milk Distributors**

Number on the register at the beginning of 1965	...	13
Removed from the register during the year	... ..	1
Added to the register during the year	... ..	1
Total number of registered distributors at end of year	...	13

In addition milk was sold by six distributors having premises outside the District, these premises being registered by the Local Authority in whose area they are situated.

The number of dairy farms selling milk by retail in the District remained at 14.

### **Milk Sampling**

In the course of the year, eight milk samples, seven of raw Tuberculin Tested milk and one of Tuberculin Tested (pasteurised) milk, were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for examination. All of these satisfied the prescribed tests.



## Ice-cream

### Register of Ice-cream Premises

Number on the Register at the beginning of 1965	...	88
Removed from the Register during the year	...	3
Added to the Register during the year	...	3
Number of registered premises at the end of the year	...	88

There remains in the District only one ice-cream manufacturer, the 'cold-mix' method of manufacture being used.

Due to difficulties in keeping the ice-cream at a sufficiently low temperature during transit no samples were taken but as all but one of the retailers are supplied by the major manufacturing companies with wrapped ice-cream, the dangers of contamination are negligible. Ice-cream is not now generally regarded as a major contributor to food poisoning because of the hygienic conditions under which it is manufactured by the large firms.

## Food Hygiene

The following is a brief analysis of the food premises in the District:—

Category	Number	Number fitted to comply with Regulation 16*	Number fitted to comply with Regulation 19†
Bakers ... ..	6	6	6
Butchers ... ..	18	18	18
Caterers ... ..	26	26	26
Chemists ... ..	3	3	2
Fish and Chip Fryers ...	5	5	5
Fishmongers ... ..	1	1	1
General Shopkeepers ...	78	78	76
Grocers ... ..	28	28	28
Sweet Shopkeepers ...	9	9	8
TOTALS ... ..	174	174	170

\* Regulation 16 relates to the provision of personal washing facilities, and † Regulation 19 to the provision of facilities for washing equipment and food.

Although almost all food premises in the District are now in full compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations with regard to sanitary accommodation, washing facilities and water supply, the problem of achieving a high standard in food hygiene is still far from being solved.

Existing legislation does not require of food handlers any standard of competence, nor does it insist on even an elementary knowledge of clean food handling. While practices, such as smoking, can result in prosecution of the offending food handler, the detection of such offences is very difficult.

The Public could help considerably by refusing to accept foodstuffs which they see to be handled without proper regard to the risk of contamination.

The responsibility for the safeguarding of foodstuffs, however, lies with the proprietor of the business who can in most cases maintain strict supervision of his staff and advise them on the basic requirements of Clean Food Practice.

### Meat and other Food Inspection

The following food was inspected at various premises in the District and condemned as being unfit for human consumption :—

14½ lbs. Green Gammon	...	...	...	Decomposition
1 × 16 oz. can Pilchards	...	...	...	Blown can
3 × 15 oz. cans Creamed Rice	...	...	...	Blown cans
1 × 19½ oz. can Broad Beans	...	...	...	Blown can
1 × 12 oz. can Stewed Steak	...	...	...	Blown can
2 × 12 oz. cans Corned Beef	...	...	...	Damaged cans
1 × 7 oz. can Chopped Ham	...	...	...	Damaged can
1 × 6 oz. can Cream	...	...	...	Damaged can
23 lbs. Sliced Green Middle Bacon	...	...	...	Decomposition
One Pig (86 lbs.)	...	...	...	Tubercular pleurisy and peritonitis
2 × 5 oz. cans Apricots	...	...	...	Damaged cans
3 × 14 oz. cans Pears	...	...	...	Damaged cans
1 × 16 oz. can Raspberries	...	...	...	Damaged can
2 × 7½ oz. cans Salmon	...	...	...	Damaged cans
4 × 29 oz. cans Pears	...	...	...	Damaged cans
1 × 12 oz. can Chopped Pork	...	...	...	Blown can
1 × 12 oz. can Corned Beef	...	...	...	Blown can
4 × 20 oz. cans Plums	...	...	...	Damaged cans
1 × 14 oz. can Tomatoes	...	...	...	Damaged can
2 × 10 oz. cans Minced Beef	...	...	...	Blown cans
1 × 16 oz. can Pilchards	...	...	...	Blown can
1 × 3¼ lbs. Chicken	...	...	...	Decomposition
103 lbs. Hindquarter Beef	...	...	...	Decomposition (Bone-taint)
80 lbs. Topside of Beef	...	...	...	Decomposition (Bone-taint)

Three complaints were received from members of the public regarding foreign bodies in foodstuffs. These were as follows :—

- (i) Loaf of bread containing grease from machinery.
- (ii) Loaf of bread containing grease from machinery.
- (iii) Meat pie containing fragment of melamine.

In the first two instances the matter was taken up with the manager of the bakery firm and it was found that alterations to the production machinery had been taking place at the time of manufacture.

In the case of the meat pie, the manufacturers were contacted and on investigation they discovered that the melamine finish on part of the



pie-making machine had been badly chipped. This melamine has now been replaced by metal so that a recurrence of this incident is unlikely in the case of this manufacturer.

No formal action was deemed necessary in any of these cases.

**Slaughterhouses**

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the District and no post-mortem meat inspection was carried out during the year.

**Public Health Act, 1936 and 1961**

**Statutory Notices**

During the year only two Statutory Notices were served requiring the abatement of nuisances. One of these related to the discharge of a sink waste onto public ground and the other to a dwelling in a very poor state of repair. In each case, the matter was satisfactorily resolved.

A considerable number of nuisances were dealt with on an informal basis and it has been found that formal action is only necessary in the very few cases where authors of the nuisances have failed to take prompt action on abatement.

**Factories Act, 1961**

**SECTION 8**

Factory premises registered at the commencement of 1965	...	68
Premises removed from Register during the year	...	1
Premises added to Register during the year	...	1
Number of registered factory premises at the end of 1965	...	68

**Part I**

**I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written notices	Occupiers Prosec'ted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	68	32	7	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	68	32	7	—



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (Defects discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions are reckoned as two, three or more “ cases ”).

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosec'tns were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Con- veniences (S.7) ...	—		—	—	—
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences re- lating to Out- work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	8	8	—	5	—

### Section 133

A total of 154 persons was listed as outworkers by a local metal fastener manufacturer.

## General

### Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Details from Register of Site Licences :—

Number on Register at the end of 1964	...	...	...	74
Removed from Register on December 31st, 1964 because of expiry of Licence	...	...	...	16
On Register at commencement of 1965	...	...	...	58
Registered (including renewals) during 1965	...	...	...	28
Expired during 1965	...	...	...	1
On Register at the end of 1965	...	...	...	85

These are comprised as follows :—

Holiday Sites	...	...	...	1
Residential Sites	...	...	...	84

The eighty-four residential site licences authorise the stationing of 159 caravans.

Five residential caravans are occupied on sites, which by nature of their use, are exempt from the licensing requirements of the Act.

One large holiday site owned by the Forestry Commission, and one Caravan Club site, are also exempt from licensing procedure.

Of the residential sites, eight are now unlikely to be used at any time in future and, in fact, Bungalows have been built on three of these sites.

The undesirable effect of the County Council's earlier policy in granting planning permission in perpetuity is now apparent as these sites cannot now be removed from the register even if the land involved becomes subject to change of use.

Planning permission is now granted on most sites for a limited period only.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The contract with a firm of pest control specialists entered into in October, 1962, on an annual basis, was not renewed.

The services of a similar private organisation have since been secured, but with the advantage of having a locally based agent, who, being readily available, has so far been able to investigate complaints more rapidly than was sometimes formerly the case.

The following table summarises the year's work in addition to the maintenance control treatments which are administered twice yearly to the Coleford old culverts and the Lydbrook stream and culvert.

<i>Type of Premises Treated</i>				<i>Number of Premises Treated</i>	<i>Type of Infestation</i>	
					<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Agricultural	...	...	...	3	3	—
Business	...	...	...	17	15	2
Domestic	...	...	...	148	141	7
Local Authority	...	...	...	12	11	1
				—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	180	170	10
				—	—	—

**Petroleum Spirit and Calcium Carbide**

Number of premises licensed to store petroleum spirit	...	53
Number of premises licensed to store calcium carbide	...	1

**Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958**

No slaughterman’s licence under this Act was issued during the year.

**Game Act, 1831**

No dealer’s licence under this Act was issued during the year.

**Land Charges Act, 1925**

Enquiries were regularly received and answered, relating to Official Searches.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One licence was issued during the year to use premises as a Pet Shop ; this was in Coleford.

**Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

One licence, subject to conditions, was issued to applicants at Joyford to keep boarding kennels for dogs.

**Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

**General**

Of the twenty premises receiving a general inspection during the year, only one was found to comply with all the requirements of the Act. In the remaining cases structural work was found to be necessary in only a few instances, and no insurmountable problems have so far been encountered.

The following is a brief analysis of the defects found :—

Inadequate sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Defective sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
Lack of door fastenings in sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	4
Inadequate washing facilities	...	...	...	...	3
Lack of hot water supply	...	...	...	...	6
Lack of soap and towels	...	...	...	...	2
Lack of drinking vessels	...	...	...	...	4
Inadequate ventilation of washrooms and sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Inadequate ventilation of workplaces	...	...	...	...	2
Inadequate temperature	...	...	...	...	2
Lack of thermometer	...	...	...	...	10
Inadequate lighting	...	...	...	...	8
Lack of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	3
Inadequate accommodation for clothing	...	...	...	...	6



Lack of facilities for drying outdoor clothing	...	...	...	8
Inadequate first-aid requisites	...	...	...	7
Defective ceiling, walls and flooring	...	...	...	6
Defective light fittings	...	...	...	1
Obstruction of floors, passages and stairs	...	...	...	5
Dangerous machines requiring guards	...	...	...	2
Inadequate sitting facilities (Section 13)	...	...	...	2

Only one complaint was received from an employee and this was in respect of low temperature in a department store. On investigation it was found that the store was heated by under-floor electric heating which was automatically controlled. A sudden, severe drop in atmospheric temperature had caused the temperature in the front part of the store to drop to several degrees below the statutory minimum. The management agreed to have the thermostatic control adjusted without delay.

## Lighting

While the lighting of the majority of premises is sufficient for work to be carried out without undue strain or risk of accident, the standard generally is very much below that recommended by the Illumination Engineering Society's Code.

However, as the I.E.S. standards take into account the adequacy of lighting necessary for carrying out tasks at satisfactorily high levels of efficiency, it is felt that these are too high standards to apply insofar as the health of employees is concerned. Therefore, although the I.E.S. standards have been recommended to employers as being the optimum, a lower standard has been accepted.

In general, light installations appear to have been provided with a view to illuminating the room as a whole and not always very effectively. The effective illumination of working surfaces, e.g. work tops in kitchens and typing desks in offices had been largely ignored.

In many instances the number and type of light fittings appear to be adequate but their situation has been given little thought, e.g. fluorescent strip lights at right angles to office desks. Several shop stock-rooms are also poorly lit, with only single, low-wattage bulbs to provide illumination, particularly in old premises.

Natural lighting in most small shops was found to be inadequate and had to be supplemented with artificial lighting at most times and especially in dull weather conditions. This was aggravated by the practice of most shopkeepers of displaying stacked goods and advertisement notices in the shop-windows, thus reducing the natural lighting considerably.

Only one instance of excessive glare was encountered. This was in the kitchen of a fried fish shop/restaurant where an unshaded fluorescent strip light was fixed to a rather low ceiling above a work top, and could have given rise to disability glare.

## ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT

Mr H. Parks, B.E.M., C.ENG., M.I.MUN.E., M.I.H.E., M.INST.P.H.E., CHART.MUN.E. reports as follows :—

### Water Supply

The information in this part of the notes relates only to the early part of the year, as the North West Gloucestershire Water Board took over the Council's Undertaking on 1st April, 1965.

#### (a) Rainfall

The rainfall for January was 3.59 in., and for February was 0.26 in., making a total of 3.85 in. for the first two months of the year.

#### (b) Yield of Springs

In both January and February the yield was as follows :—

Lydbrook	...	700,000 gallons per day.
Redbrook	...	330,000 gallons per day.
Big Well	...	400,000 gallons per day.

making a total of 1,430,000 gallons per day.

#### (c) Pumping Stations and Reservoirs

In the early part of 1965, and before the North West Gloucestershire Water Board took over, an arrangement was concluded with the East Dean Council to take over from them and install at this Council's Big Well source of supply, a pumping set comprising 50 H.P. motor and "six stage" Mather and Platt Centrifugal pump complete with Ellison starting gear, etc., and as soon as this equipment had been renovated and installed at the Big Well, the Council's existing multi-stage pump and motor, etc. were rebuilt and reinstated at the Redbrook Pumping Station.

#### (d) Consumption and Demand

Up to the 26th February, 1965, the Council had pumped water as follows :

(i) From the Redbrook Pumping Station, including Big Well—19,282,000 gallons.

(ii) From the Lydbrook Pumping Station—36,994,000 gallons.

Making a total of 56,276,000 gallons.

Of the above total, East Dean Council had 7,469,000 gallons, and Carter's Factory 2,363,000 gallons.

The average consumption per head of population for this early period of 1965, amounted to 46.06 gallons per head per day.

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

At the time of preparing this Report, the matter of sewerage and sewage disposal throughout the West Dean Rural District is in a state of flux, in that the Sewage Disposal Treatment Works at Newland serving the Coleford area (Central area, including Berry Hill and



Broadwell) is now in the process of being extended to deal with further domestic sewage flow from the Central area, and also to receive and treat the trade waste discharge from the Carter's Factory.

At the Lydbrook Sewage Disposal Works (Northern area), although these Works have now been in operation some two or more years, there appears to be a number of properties which have not yet connected to the main sewers, and the Works are not, therefore, yet functioning to full capacity. Despite this, however, difficulties are being experienced in sludge drying and disposal, and in order to alleviate the difficulty further sludge lagoon trenches have been excavated at the Works in which to pump excessive quantities of sludge for drying out purposes.

In the Southern part of the District (comprising Bream, Whitecroft, Pillowell, Yorkley, Oldcroft, Viney Hill and Parkend), a scheme of main sewerage and one treatment disposal works with various sewage pumping stations is now in an advanced state of technical preparation, but in the meantime small sewage disposal works at many of the places mentioned still have to be maintained and operated and again the matter of sludge disposal has to be dealt with.

At all the disposal works throughout the Rural District, whether they be public sewage treatment works or small housing act sewage treatment works, the sludge is extracted from the settling tanks by tanker, the Council effecting an annual contract for this purpose and the wet sludge is disposed of at the Councils' disposal point in a quarry at Fetter Hill.

During the year the Council's attention has again been drawn to the polluted state of the Newland brook, and it is hoped that as soon as the present commitments (a) at Newland, and (b) the main drainage scheme for the Southern area, have been cleared, the Council will be embarking upon extensions of sewers in all the remaining parts of the Council's area which are not yet served,

A further collapse of the containing bank of the valley brook at Newland was experienced during the year, and arrangements were concluded with the Contractor engaged on the extension works at the Newland Works to build a new retaining wall to deal with this and to safeguard the Council's main outfall sewers.

### **Sewer Connections**

During the year new sewer connections were made, as follows :—

(a) Coleford	...	4
(b) Broadwell	...	5
(c) Berry Hill	...	35
(d) Lydbrook	...	13

In addition to the above, plans were approved for 81 new dwellings and 34 cases of improvements to properties, where septic tank would be done away with, and sewer connections made.

### **New Properties and Improvements to Existing**

During the year plans were approved for 113 new private dwellings, and for 118 improvements.



Of the properties to be improved, 47 applications for Standard Grant and 6 for Discretionary Grant, were dealt with, and additionally the Council made 20 loans for the purpose of improvements to properties.

The number of new Council dwellings completed during 1965 was 22 aged persons bungalows and 32 houses, and at the end of the year the Council had under construction 28 bungalows and 24 houses, with plans well advanced for a further 14 bungalows and 42 houses.

## HOUSING PROGRESS

Mr A. C. Luker, the Housing Officer, reports as follows on the number of houses completed :—

### Council Houses

PARISH	1965	Pre-war	Post-war including 1965	Total
Coleford ... ..	20	166	281	447
English Bicknor ... ..	—	8	16	24
Staunton ... ..	—	—	11	11
NEWLAND				
Clearwell ... ..	—	10	18	28
Redbrook ... ..	—	34	—	34
LYDBROOK				
Lydbrook ... ..	6	52	10	62
Joys Green ... ..	—	20	123	143
WEST DEAN				
Berry Hill ... ..	—	50	68	118
Bream ... ..	14	80	141	221
Broadwell ... ..	—	64	44	108
Ellwood ... ..	6	6	6	12
Milkwall ... ..	—	6	38	44
Parkend ... ..	2	12	47	59
Pillowell ... ..	—	12	—	12
Viney Hill ... ..	—	—	—	—
Whitecroft ... ..	6	30	30	60
Yorkley ... ..	—	42	91	133
TOTAL	54	592	924	1,516

Of the 54 dwellings completed and occupied during 1965, twenty-two were one bedroom type bungalows which were let to tenants of pensionable age.

In addition to the number of dwellings set out above, the Council own eight other units of accommodation, all of which are occupied.

### Private Houses

Eighty-eight were completed during the year, making a total of 543 during the post-war period.

## **Applicants for Council Accommodation**

There were 358 applicants for Council houses, 94 of whom were pensioners asking for the tenancies of Old Persons Bungalows.

## **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S SUMMARY**

### **Water Supply**

Regular sampling was carried out by the Public Health Inspector throughout the year.

### **Sources**

**Lydbrook Limekiln Pool Springs :** Of nine samples taken of the raw water from the collecting chamber, seven showed contamination, in six this was slight but in one it was gross.

**Redbrook Sources :** The Big Well showed gross contamination at times. Of ten samples taken eight showed contamination, in three of which it was gross. A sample was taken for chemical analysis in January and this was reported on as satisfactory.

Ten samples were taken of the mixed waters of the surface springs and deep well with Big Well. All but three showed contamination which appeared to be mostly derived from that of the Big Well Water.

**Mains Water :** Forty-two samples were taken from taps on the mains. Four showed contamination, in two of these it was very slight and was probably due to contamination by the tap, in the other two, however, (one at Bream and one at Redbrook) taken on the 30th November, there were approximately five Bact. coli (type I) per 100 mls. and as this was at a time when both sources of raw water showed gross contamination, it appeared the chlorination was inadequate.

### **Swimming Pools**

The only pools are those at Bell's Grammar and Berry Hill Secondary Schools. A sample of the water taken from each was satisfactory. These pools were satisfactorily maintained. A paddling pool at the Dean Hall Special School came into operation during the year. Two samples of the water from this were satisfactory.

### **Sewerage**

The position is as stated in the Surveyor's Report.

1. Coleford, Berry Hill and Broadwell are sewered to the Newland Works.
2. A nuisance exists in the Valley Brook from the trade effluent from Beecham's Food and Drink Division, Royal Forest Factory, and extension to the Newland Works to cope with this is being undertaken.
3. Lydbrook is sewered to a separate plant.
4. Plans are being prepared to sewer Bream, Whitecroft, Parkend, Pillowell, Yorkley and Viney Hill. This scheme is urgently required ; a number of nuisances exist.
5. Clearwell, Sling and Milkwall will require to be sewered.





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